

Council Chambers, 25 West Market Street, 7:30 p.m. Mayor Umstattd presiding.

Council Members Present: Kelly Burk, David Butler, Thomas Dunn, Katie Sheldon Hammler, Marty Martinez, Kevin Wright and Mayor Umstattd.

Council Members Absent: All present.

Staff Present: Town Manager Kaj Dentler, Deputy Town Manager Keith Markel, Deputy Town Attorney Barbara Notar, Director of Economic Development Marantha Edwards, Director of Capital Projects Renee Lafollette, Director of Public Works Tom Mason, Chief of Police Joseph Price, Assistant Town Manager Scott Parker, Transportation Engineer Calvin Grow and Clerk of Council Lee Ann Green

AGENDA

ITEMS

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **INVOCATION:** Adam Bell

3. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** Council Member Wright

4. **ROLL CALL:** Showing all members present.

5. **MINUTES**

a. Work Session/Regular Session Minutes of November 10, 2014

On a motion by Council Member Martinez, seconded by Vice Mayor Butler, the minutes of the work session/regular session meeting of November 10, 2014 were approved as amended by a vote of 7-0.

6. **ADOPTING THE MEETING AGENDA**

On a motion by Vice Mayor Butler, seconded by Council Member Burk, the meeting agenda was approved as presented by the following vote:

Aye: Butler, Burk, Dunn, Hammler, Martinez, Wright and Mayor Umstattd

Nay: None

Vote: 7-0

7. **PRESENTATIONS**

a. Certificates of Recognition – Special Olympics Bocce Team

On a motion by Council Member Burk, seconded by Council Member Hammler, Certificates of Recognition were approved for the following players and coaches of the Special Olympics Bocce team:

Chris Kranz
Sophia Crook
Adam Bell
Jacob Benish

Bill Emley
Gregory Voldish
Austin Ford
Rob Albano

Coaches

Lori and Paul Benish

Dan Dillon

Angel Cantrall

b. Proclamation – Skip Sugar Day

On a motion by Council Member Burk, seconded by Council Member Hammler, the following was proclaimed:

PROCLAMATION

*Skip Sugar Day
February 4, 2015*

WHEREAS, obesity is a disease that is impacting the Town of Leesburg and the Nation; and

WHEREAS, obesity rates for adults have more than doubled over the past 35 years and obesity rates for children have more than tripled since 1980; and

WHEREAS, currently 68.5% of Americans are obese or overweight; and

WHEREAS, obesity has been linked to more than 60 chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, kidney disease, cancer, arthritis, and mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, estimated costs related to obesity in the U.S. is nearly \$200 billion per year with lost productivity due to job absenteeism estimated at \$153 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, U.S. food and beverage industry spends nearly \$2 billion annually to market sugar-laden food and beverages to children; and

WHEREAS, the average American consumes approximately 152 lbs. of sugar per year doubling the incidence of diabetes over the past 20 years with one out of every three children on the path to Type 2 diabetes by 2050.

THEREFORE, PROCLAIMED by the Council of the Town of Leesburg in Virginia that February 4, 2015 is “Skip Sugar Day” in the Town of Leesburg.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the Council supports the community screening of the movie “FED UP” and urges the citizens of Leesburg to pay attention to their health, food choices, and lifestyle to help them live longer and healthier lives and reduce the risks of obesity.

PROCLAIMED this 24th day of November, 2014.

c. Presentation – Visit Loudoun

Beth Erickson, Director of Visit Loudoun, gave a brief presentation on Visit Loudoun's activities for the past year. She presented Council with a plate on behalf of Epicurience and Visit Loudoun.

9. PETITIONERS

The Petitioner's Section was opened at 8:08 p.m.

Geary Higgins, Leesburg District Supervisor, wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving. He stated that the Town Plan foresees no residential development as part of the Tuscarora Crossing development; however, many Leesburg constituents are in favor of residential uses for this project. He noted that the applicant has proffered and bonded all four lanes of Crosstrail Boulevard which will allow the road to be built at this time and free up money for other needed projects.

Colleen Gillis stated that when this property was originally rezoned in the early 1980s, this area was not adjacent to homes and the vision for the property was different. She stated that the current application is acceptable to the nearby residents and will allow the Village at Leesburg to have more patrons.

Pat Scanell, 803 Lennon Court, SE, stated he represents MakerSmith, a Leesburg based non-profit in the Maker Movement. He thanked Council for co-hosting a screening of the documentary film at Ida Lee on Monday night, December 1 from 7-9 p.m. He encouraged everyone to come out and learn more about the Maker Movement.

Keith Reeve, 890 Rhonda Place, SE, stated that Kincaid Forest would like to have a buffer zone between them and industrial uses and that Tuscarora Crossing will serve as that buffer zone.

Paul Norris, 43029 Mill Race Terrace, NE, stated he lives in the Lakes of Red Rock community. He stated his concern that there is not enough residential development around the Village at Leesburg to support the retail and commercial. He stated that adding additional residential units at Tuscarora Crossing will ensure that the Village at Leesburg remains viable.

Sarah Norris, 43029 Mill Race Terrace, NE, stated she feels the Tuscarora Crossing development is wonderful and has heard many others express the same sentiment.

The Petitioner's Section was closed at 8:29 p.m.

10. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Council Member Martinez, seconded by Vice Mayor Butler, the following items were moved for approval as the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approving a Substitute Performance Bond – Courthouse Square

RESOLUTION 2014-120

Approving a Substitute Performance Guarantee for Courthouse Square (TLPF-2012-0011)

- b. Annual Street Maintenance – Concrete and Brick Continuing Services Contract Award

RESOLUTION 2014-121

Awarding the 2014 Annual Street Maintenance – Concrete and Brick Repair Construction Contract to Gull Corporation

- c. Lower Sycolin Sewage Conveyance, Ph. II – Easement Acquisition Authorization

RESOLUTION 2014-122

Declaring that a Public Necessity and Use Exists and Authorizing an offer to Acquire Permanent and Temporary Easements for the Lower Sycolin Sewage Conveyance System Phase II Project

- d. Sycolin Road Widening, Ph. IV – Design Contract Award

RESOLUTION 2014-123

Awarding a Design and Engineering Services Contract for the Sycolin Road Widening Phase IV Project to Rinker Design Associates, P.C. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$755,188

The Consent Agenda was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Burk, Butler, Dunn, Hammler, Martinez, Wright and Mayor Umstattd

Nay: None

Vote: 7-0

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. None.

11. RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

- a. None.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. None.

14. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Crosswalks – Town wide: Safety Education and Police Enforcement
Keith Markel discussed several of the issues that have been brought up with regards to crosswalks.

Key Points:

- Crosswalks in Leesburg are delineated by pavement markings and the use of signage and caution lights.
- Driver feedback signs are a component of crosswalk safety
- Recommendation:
 - Increased education as to crosswalk usage and driver behavior
 - Increased police enforcement
 - Amending the Town Code to allow for increased fines for failure to follow safety requirements
- Do not recommend a crosswalk at Edwards Ferry and the Bypass as it would require significant work to extend sidewalks to the intersection and would encourage people to cross at this busy intersection
- Educational component is important to educate drivers, pedestrians and cyclists as to responsibilities

Council Comments/Questions:

- A number of busy intersections in the county have crosswalks and it does not add 45-50 seconds of wait time.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Butler, seconded by Council Member Burk, the following was proposed with Option B:

RESOLUTION

Crosswalk Safety Initiatives

Council Member Hammler proposed a motion to postpone action until the next Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Wright.

Council Comments/Questions

- These are complex issues with significant price tags.
- Would like to give the public time to make comment
- Don't want to put a dollar value on safety
- Do we have the funds to install these improvements?
Staff answer: The SRTC has a budget of \$36,000
- It was clarified that the \$36,000 is the traffic calming budget administered by the Department of Public Works
- Support for a lighted crosswalk

The motion to postpone action until the next Council meeting was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Burk, Dunn, Hammler, Wright

Nay: Butler, Martinez and Mayor Umstattd

Vote: 4-3

Vice Mayor Butler made a motion, seconded by Council Member Dunn to postpone discussion on this item until the next work session.

Council Comments/Questions:

- Personnel who can answer the questions are present at this meeting

The motion to postpone discussion until the next work session failed by the following vote:

Aye: Butler

Nay: Burk, Dunn, Hammler, Martinez, Wright and Mayor Umstattd

Vote: 1-6

Council Discussion/Questions:

- Pedestrians have a responsibility to determine whether it is safe to enter the crosswalk
Staff comment: Two thirds of all accidents in the Town involving pedestrians were caused by the pedestrian
- Main goal is education
- Education is important, but the issue is aggressive driving
- Mechanical means of slowing down traffic may not be an option at the intersection in question
- An enhanced bike/walk trail system throughout town would alleviate some of the pedestrian/vehicle problems
- Would like to see more enforcement, particularly near the schools
- Citizen feedback expressed a desire for more enforcement
- Must be cognizant of sign “litter” at intersections
- Is it possible to use volunteers to enforce crosswalk regulations?
Staff answer: Volunteers do not have the authority or power to write citations
- Lighted pedestrian crosswalks give a false sense of security
- What option did the SRTC feel would be best?
Staff answer: They felt that the lighted crosswalk would be the best option
- Does staff have any data to suggest that lights on poles are more effective than lights embedded in the pavement?
Staff answer: No data
- Please comment on staff recommendation and timeline for implementation.
Staff answer: Pedestrian flashing light on a pole could be installed within six weeks; however, the embedded crosswalk would be a spring project as pavement would need to be removed.
- Council should act quickly to implement advisory board recommendations when safety is at stake

Mayor Umstattd made a motion to move Option 1A, seconded by Council Member Martinez. Council Member Hammler offered a friendly amendment to add additional advanced signage to the intersection of Oakcrest Manor Drive and North King Street. The amendments were accepted as friendly.

Council Comments/Questions

- Vote was taken to not take action on this tonight
- Will exacerbate the problem
- Would like to hear from the SRTC why they chose the lighted crosswalks over the pole-mounted light
- Would like staff to investigate whether there is signage that could alert pedestrians/drivers of the crosswalk

Council Member Wright offered a motion to postpone this action until the next meeting, seconded by Vice Mayor Butler.

Aye: Burk, Butler, Dunn, Hammler and Wright

Nay: Martinez and Mayor Umstattd

Vote: 5-2

b. Comprehensive Parking Plan

Vice Mayor Butler offered a motion to hold a public input session on whether to remove parking meters or change them to credit card meters and whether to make the parking garage free. The motion was seconded by Council Member Wright.

Council Member Dunn offered a friendly amendment to allow the public to opine on any part of the parking issue that they want. The amendment was not accepted as friendly. Council Member Dunn offered this as an amendment, which was seconded by Council Member Hammler.

Council Comments/Questions:

- Allows for more input on more issues
- The public will comment on what they want and will not be limited
- Too many points for discussion makes it too open ended

The amendment was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Dunn, Hammler, Wright and Mayor Umstattd

Nay: Burk, Butler and Martinez

Vote: 4-3

The motion to have a public input session was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Burk, Dunn, Hammler, Martinez, Wright and Mayor Umstattd

Nay: Butler

Vote: 6-1

c. Additions to Future Council Meetings

Council Member Wright asked for: a resolution to endorse a historic district committee that is not town sponsored. He also asked for a resolution regarding Tuscarora Crossing. He stated he would distribute a draft for Council to consider. There was not support for a work session discussion.

Council Member Dunn requested a work session on annexation. There was no support for a work session discussion.

15. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Wright stated he was looking forward to the holiday activities.

Council Member Hammler thanked everyone involved in the Veteran's Day commemoration at Dodona Manor. She stated she attended the Pizzarella's ribbon cutting with the Mayor and Council Member Burk. She thanked Senator Dick Black, Delegates LaRock and Minchew for attending the legislative briefing hosted by the town. She thanked Mr. Scannell for coming to let everyone know about the Maker movement, which is taking the country by storm. She questioned when the Council would be directing the school proffer from the JR Festival Lakes rezoning. She congratulated the participants in the Freeze Your Gizzard 5k and fun run that was held at Ida Lee Park last weekend.

Council Member Martinez wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Council Member Burk stated Veteran's Day commemoration at Dodona Manor was very inspiring, as usual. She stated she also attended the ribbon cutting at Pizzarella's, which is owned by a wonderful family. She stated she also attended the Mason Enterprise Center's third year anniversary and it was great to see their enthusiasm. She stated she also attended the Eastern World Market ribbon cutting with the Mayor and Vice Mayor. She stated the closest eastern market is in Annandale, so this will be nice for those who follow specific eastern diets. She stated Ivana at Chimole has the Chairman of the DC Chamber of Commerce Minority Caucus as a guest. She stated the presentation by the Economic Development Department was interesting and they enjoyed their visit. She stated Greg Voldish, one of the Special Olympics athletes was the first special education student to be included in a regular education class in Loudoun County. She wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Vice Mayor Butler wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Council Member Dunn requested that a recognition be given to the Tuscarora High School football team for their successful season.

16. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Umstattd disclosed a meeting with Mike Banzhaf on a proposal to rezone the Hamlet on the north side of Rt. 7, surrounded by Potomac Station. She thanked Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for bringing in a wonderful group of singers from Minnesota who gave a wonderful show. She stated she appreciated those Council Members who have been able to come to the recent ribbon cuttings. She thanked Leesburg Community Church for the opportunity to meet with about 200 ESL teachers and their adult students

17. MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Dentler wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

18. CLOSED SESSION

None.

19. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Vice Mayor Butler, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

Kristen C. Umstattd, Mayor
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council
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